

F. No. 1-1/2022-AER-ES
Government of India
Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare
Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare
ES&E Division, AER Section

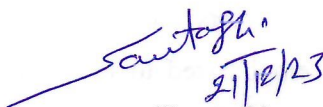
Room No.102-A, F-Wing,
Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi -110 001
Dated:21st December, 2023

Subject: Minutes of the Directors Meeting held on 06th December, 2023 under the Chairmanship of Sr. ESA, ES&E Division, DA&FW-reg.

The undersigned is directed to enclose the minutes of Directors Meeting held on 06th December, 2023 under the Chairmanship of Sr. ESA, ES&E Division, DA&FW at 11:00 AM in V.K.R.V. Rao Hall, IEG, Delhi for necessary action.

This issues with the approval of the competent authority.

Encl. as above


(Santosh)
Economic Officer (AER)

Distribution: As per participation list

MINUTES OF DIRECTORS MEETING HELD ON 06TH DECEMBER, 2023 UNDER THE CHAIRMANSHIP OF SR. ESA, ES&E DIVISION, DA&FW AT 11:00 AM IN VKRV RAO HALL, IEG, DELHI

The Directors Meeting was held under the Chairmanship of Sr. ESA, ES&E Division, DA&FW on 06th December, 2023 to discuss, finalize and allocate Research Advisory Committee (RAC) approved study proposals for the work plan 2023-24. The list of participants is at **Annexure-I**.

1. At the outset, Prof. Brajesh Jha, Officer In-charge of AERU, IEG, Delhi welcomed Sr. ESA, Adviser, Director, IEG, Directors/Hon Directors/Officer- In -charge and representatives/staff of participating AERCs/Us and Officials of the Ministry.
2. Director, IEG, Prof. Chetan Ghate, Director, IEG, Delhi, delivered the welcome address with a brief introductory note about IEG and on the purpose of the Directors meeting. He then invited Sr. ESA to address the participants.
3. Sr. ESA delivered a brief introductory address with emphasis on the completion of the pending studies from the earlier work plan within next 2-3 months. Thereafter, Sr. ESA urged the members of the Directors Meeting to offer suggestions keeping stakeholders in mind, especially, farmers. It was emphasized to focus on the primary level field data to elicit feedback and enabling the course correction. He further requested the AERCs/Us to look at the issues and bottlenecks in implementing schemes with proper facts and figures. With regard to the study on Millets, he requested the Coordinator of the study to cover as many states as possible with focus on primary level data. With reference to the study on Aspirational Districts, it was suggested that though a separate study with focus on Aspirational Blocks is under consideration for being taken up, efforts may be made to include at least a few aspirational blocks, if possible, under the proposed study. Finally, Sr.ESA requested to fix a timeframe for completion of studies allotted in the work plan 2023-24 maintaining relevance of the study findings and recommendations.
4. Adviser, (AER) - member-secretary, welcomed members, both attending the meeting in person and as well as virtually. While reviewing the studies allotted to AERCs/Us in the work plan 2021-22, it was observed that three study reports (2-ADRTC and 1- AERC, V.V.Nagar) are pending. AERC V. V. Nagar and AERU ADRTC ISEC, were directed to complete the pending studies by Dec'23 so that these three reports along with two reports, submitted earlier by ADRTC ISEC, may be placed for the presentation. A few points were suggested with respect to the study proposal 2023-24:
 - i) All the final study proposal submitted by AERCs/Us must contain detailed methodology, sampling frame work, sample size, state/district/village coverage etc. and proposed objectives, coverage & scope etc. of the Ministry of Agriculture & Allied ministry and observations of RAC with respect to each of the study.

- ii) AERCs/Us to avoid any kind of duplication and significant overlap with the existing on – going study or project, being carried out by the Centres/Units, which are funded by different agencies/institutions other than the Ministry.
- iii) All study report must be based on primary data. Use of secondary data to be avoided or minimized, as far as possible.

5. Each of the eleven (11) the research study proposals as approved by the Research Advisory Committee (RAC) of the DES (in meeting held on 19th July 2023) was presented by the respective AERCs/Us. The same were discussed and deliberated. The study- wise comments & observations emerged from the participating members are at **Annexure-II**

6. Points emerged from the meeting are the following:

- AERCs/Us to finalized proposals with the matrix containing coordinating centres, sample framework, methodology and proportion of secondary and primary data to be used for the study.
- Draft report of all the studies of work plan 2023-24 must be submitted by Dec'2024. The timeline of actions decided for studies is at **Annexure-III**. AERCs/Us are to follow the same.
- There are six all India coordinated study namely, (i) A Detailed Analysis of Millets Value Chain in India- The Production, Processing, Consumption and Export (by AERU-CMA) , (ii) Comprehensive impact assessment study for PMFBY/RWBCIS (by AERU-CMA), (iii) An Empirical Study of Farming Communities Development in Aspirational Districts of India (by AERU ADRTC ISEC), (iv) Rejuvenating Rice Fallow land: A Study of Karnataka state using GIS and Remote sensing (by AERU ADRTC ISEC), (v) Assessment of Progress of Kisan Credit Cards with special references to Animal husbandry and Fishery sectors (by AERC Jorhat) & (vi) An Analytical Study of Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi Scheme (by AERU IEG Delhi). Remaining five (5) studies are not Pan India level study focusing on maximum three to four states. These studies are carried out by the individual centre/unit facilitated by other AERCs/Us for the states coming under their jurisdiction.
- A workshop to finalize the methodology and questionnaire, among others, be hosted by one of the Centres, preferably, by AERC Ludhiana or AERC Jabalpur in 1st week of Feb'2024.
- A series of off-line review meeting to be conducted to monitor the progress of the studies of the work-plan 2023-24.
- Final study proposals after incorporation of all the comments of the meeting need to be submitted to the Ministry by 31st Dec. 2023.

7. The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

List of participants of the Directors Meeting held on 06.12.2023

1. Shri Arun Kumar, Senior Economic & Statistical Advisor, Economics Statistics & Evaluation Division, MOA&FW- **Chairperson**
2. Dr. Promodita Sathish, Adviser, MOA&FW
3. Dr. P Babu, Assistant Economic Advisor, MOA&FW
4. Prof. Chetan Ghate, Director, Institute of Economic Growth, Delhi
5. Prof. Brajesh Jha, Head, AERU, IEG, Delhi
6. Prof. C.S.C Sekhar, AERU, IEG, Delhi
7. Prof. Jayanti Kajale, Professor, Director, AERC, Pune
8. Prof. S.S Kalamkar, Professor, Director, AERC, Gujarat
9. Prof. Ramappa K.B, Professor and Head, ADRTC, ISEC, Bengaluru
10. Prof. S. Chinnammai, Professor and Head, AERC, Chennai
11. Prof. J.M Singh, Professor and Head, AERC Ludhiana (online)
12. Prof. H. Purshotham, Director, AERC Waltair (online)
13. Dr. K. Ram Babu, Research Associate, AERC Waltair (online)
14. Dr. Ranjan Kumar Sinha, AERC Bhagalpur (online)
15. Dr. Yogesh Bhat, AERC Delhi
16. Prof. Debasis Bhattacharya, Director, AERC, Visva Bharati (online)
17. Dr. Kiran Thete, Research Associate, CMA, IIM Ahmedabad
18. Dr. Nisha Rani, AERC Shimla (online)
19. Dr. Anup.K Das, AERC, Jorhat
20. Dr. Deepak Rathi, AERC, Jabalpur (online)
21. Prof. Hasib Ahmed, AERC, Prayagraj
22. Ms Tinku Pal, AERC, Prayagraj
23. Dr. Namrata Thapa, AERU, IEG, Delhi
24. Dr. Areef Mulla, AERU, IEG, Delhi
25. Shri Deepak Kumar, AERU, IEG, Delhi
26. Shri Santosh Kumar, Economic Officer, MOA&FW
27. Shri Shadabul Haque, Junior Statistical Officer, MOA&FW
28. Shri Vaibhav Gupta, Technical Assistant (Economics), MOA&FW
29. Shri Jeewan Singh, Technical Assistant (Economics), MOA&FW
30. Shri Sachin Mittal, Technical Assistant (Hindi), MOA&FW

Annexure II

STUDY PROPOSAL WISE COMMENTS OF DIRECTORS MEETING

S. No.	Title of study proposal	Proposed by	Revise/Consolidation of study proposals done by AERCs/Us
1	Comparative advantage of price realization to the farmers on sale of their produce through competitive and innovative marketing channel vis-à-vis traditional channel in the State of Maharashtra	Agricultural Marketing, DA&FW	AERC Pune
It was suggested to cover all innovative marketing channels must be complied and compared with respect to the proposed state. It was decided that study must include beneficiary adopting innovative marketing channels as well as the control group farmers, adopting traditional channel. Also, due care must be taken to select region- wise and channel- wise appropriate commodities. It was suggested that in order to understand the trend in prices realized, and marketing costs incurred, data on these may be collected at least for 2 years (reference year as well as one year preceding the reference year) for the identified agricultural commodity from the beneficiary farmers as well as non –beneficiaries. Further, as far as on-line platforms are concerned, the study should focus on comparing feedback from farmers adopting these platforms for a particular commodity with those not adopting on-line platform under traditional channel.			
2 Merged	A Detailed Analysis of Millets Value Chain in India- The Production, Processing, Consumption and Export		
	Survey and Surveillance on Area, Production and Yield of Minor Millets, and two pseudo millets	NFSM Cell, Crops Division, DA&FW	AERU CMA IIM-A
	Development of export standards for millet- based/ value-added millet products	PLIS Division, Min. of Food Processing Industries	
	Sustainability of Millets production and consumption of tribes in the amidst Eastern Ghats: A study in Alluri Seetha Rama Raju district, Andhra Pradesh	AERC Waltair	
There was a detailed discussion on coverage of the study and it was decided that the coverage must be expanded to 14 states to meet the needs of NFSM Cell, Crops Division and it must also cover major, minor and pseudo millets. The revised study proposal must include all objectives of each of the above three constituent studies and state specific interventions may also be studied.			
3	Comprehensive impact assessment study for PMFBY/RWBCIS	Credit Division, DA&FW	AERU CMA IIM-A
It was advised that the study must incorporate weather based components. This is an all India study. It was agreed to carry out the study with expanded coverage of states where the scheme is being implemented including Southern states. It was also suggested to look at the implications of the scheme			

on Farm Debt waivers and vice -versa. AERC Shimla requested to include Himachal as one of the states under jurisdiction of the study.			
4	An Empirical Study of Farming Community Development under Aspirational Districts Programme of India	AERU ADRTC ISEC Bengaluru	AERU ADRTC ISEC Bengaluru
It was suggested that the study must include the impact of Govt. schemes on the aspirational districts. The study must focus on the reasons for farmers not opting certain schemes and the measures to address these issues. Discussion was also on how to segregate the impact of schemes in the aspirational districts. It was suggested, among other things, the asset creation, per capita income and other developmental indicators may be used as proxy for capturing the same.			
5	Rejuvenating fallow land: An All India study using Remote Sensing and GIS	AERU ADRTC ISEC Bengaluru	AERU ADRTC ISEC Bengaluru
During the discussion, it was pointed out that there is no fallow land in Punjab for rice and therefore to drop Punjab from the list of covered states under the study. It was suggested that proportion of fallow land to area under rice cultivation could be considered for the selection of states. If the proportion is above 75%, those states could be included in the study. Or ADRTC may devise some other methodology to at least capture 75% of states coming under fallow land. Further, final proposal may define fallow land as per agricultural census and methodology may be framed for the study accordingly.			
6	Small Land-holders, their Agriculture and Migration	AER Unit IEG Delhi	AER Unit IEG Delhi
It was discussed that there is a need to cover the source and destination of the migration pattern with due focus on the feminization of agriculture, particularly w.r.t. distressed migration. It was enquired as to why the State of West Bengal was not included in the revised coverage. It emerged that the focus of the study is on productivity, adverse land-labour ratio and inter-state migration. Further, with regard to inclusion of West Bengal, it was mentioned that the migration pattern in West Bengal is different than the middle-Gangetic belt, intra- vis-à-vis inter-state migration in the latter. It was also informed that the districts in Delhi will be surveyed to strengthen the study. It was suggested that the study may include West Bengal also.			
7 Merged	Status of KCC in India with special reference to animal husbandry and fisheries: A realistic Assessment		
	Kisan Credit Cards with special reference to Fisheries Sector in Assam	AERC Jorhat	AERC Jorhat
	Assessment the Progress of Kisan Credit Cards special references to Animal husbandry and Fishery sectors in Gujarat	AERC V. V. Nagar	
During the meeting it was decided that the coverage of the study must be expanded based on the RBI classification of six regions or on agro- climatic regions. Further, the word realistic may be dropped from the title. On data of KCC, it was suggested to source the detailed data sets from the state level agencies releasing the funds. It was advised that the state-wise data on coverage of KCC has been			

made available for KCC Concurrent Feedback study and the same 12 states may be considered for this study.			
8	Study of natural farming crop production in Gujarat & Andhra Pradesh: Status and challenges		
	Study of Natural Farming Crop Production in Gujarat: Status and Challenges	AERC V. V. Nagar	AERC V V Nagar
	Economics of natural farming and conventional farming in Andhra Pradesh	AERC Waltair	
Merged			
It was suggested to include the state of Himachal Pradesh with the need to focus on particular crops in the state. It was suggested to modify the title accordingly. Further, it was decided that input costs must be considered in the study which will help to capture the aspect of labour costs. Objectives may also take care of issues & concerns arising in natural farming in state of Himachal also.			
9	Impact of Climate Change on the Livelihood of Agricultural Households of the Coastal Regions of West Bengal, Odisha and Andaman & Nicobar Islands	AERC Visva Bharati	AERC Visva Bharati
It was advised to take only one district in each of the states for the study, instead of two districts. Further, it was decided to expand the coverage of the states to coastal regions of Tamil Nadu and Kerala as well, and to change the title of the study accordingly. A state-wise comparative analysis to be carried out in the study.			
10	Performance and perceptions of Rythu Bharosa Kendras in Andhra Pradesh	AERC Waltair	AERC Waltair
It was decided that a comparative analysis of the RBKs and FPOs may be undertaken in the ambit of the study, and to also include the role of FPOs in the providing quality inputs to the farmers.			
11	Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM KISAN): Problems, Prospects and needed improvements	AERC Delhi	AERU IEG
On the request of AERC Delhi, the study is allocated to AERU IEG Delhi. This will be coordinated and supervised by Prof. CSC Sekhar, AERU, IEG Delhi, with complete assistance of AERC Delhi. It was also decided to expand the coverage from the current six states to carry out study at pan India level. The revised coverage and final report to be shared with the Ministry.			

Study progress, monitoring and review chart

- Stage 1: Finalisation of study design, methodology & questionnaire of the new studies
- Stage 2: Data collection, tabulation and analysis
- Stage 3: Report writing, drafting and peer review
- Stage 4: Submission of All India consolidated reports

2023	2024												2025		
Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar
Submission of final study proposals to the Ministry, after consultation with all the stakeholders	Stage 1														
			Stage 2												
								Stage 3							
										Stage 4					
													Presentation before Ministry, Finalisation		